SOUTH VIET NAM *In struggle*

SOUTH VIET NAM NATIONAL FRONT FOR LIBERATION INFORMATION COMMISSION

4th Year

No 75

October 1 st 1970

ADDRESS :

HT 1217 B-SVN

C/O

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19, *Hai Ba Trung, Hanoi, DRVN*

and all RSVN Embassies, Information Offices in foreign countries.

Cont Copy

editorial

Mounting political unrest in South Viet Nam urban centres

POLITICAL effervescence has been raging this autumn in Saigon, the last sanctuary of the Thieu-Ky-Khiem clique and their American bosses, as the result of past troubles and the actions of students, youth, Buddhists, journalists, workers, women and war invalids.

The Saigon students and youth have proved equal to their designation as fuse of the movement against, and arch enemy of, the Thieu-Ky-Khiem traitors by their stubborn and persevering fight. From the action of the students of one university, their movement has become the centre of the political maelstrom in Saigon at present. Despite the most vicious and brutal means used by the enemy, the protest now explosive, now smouldering, has traversed most dangerous path, to become steady as it is today. Its forms have been more versatile and suitable to each time and each place. From the most simple to the most sophisticated, the slogans displayed by the students have encompassed a wide range of objectives : now spearheaded against terror and repression, now claiming their own rights, and the interests of the nation and finally directed against the puppet regime and US aggression.

After the students it has been the turn of the pressmen. The latter have been constantly fighting for the freedom of the press, supporting students and other sections of the people and taking exception to all injustices by the South Viet Nam puppet regime. The enemy has resorted to such police brutalities as manhandling pressmen, confiscating their cameras... But these have not been able to prevent the press from telling the truth, condemning the Thieu-Ky-Khiem triumvirate and calling for the formation of a new administration.

The war invalids also have seen the true colours of the quislings and their American bosses. After being thrown into the fighting and becoming disabled, they have been left in the lurch. When they ask for a roof to live under—the most elementary thing for a human being—they are dealt with with the very US-made arms which they were previously forced to take up to defend the regime which is now using them ill. As a result, many of them have been wounded, some others killed. Even their jerry-built huts have been pulled down, to make them homeless. Indignantly some war invalids ripped open their bellies, others staged a hunger-strike or defended themselves against the puppet authorities with sticks and rifles. They have come to realize that the US imperialists are responsible for their wretched plight and the confusion and corruption now prevailing in South Viet Nam. From sporadic actions carried out by some hundred war invalids in Saigon, the movement has spread to other provinces, involving tens of thousands of people including relatives of war dead.

With the establishment of the Women's Welfare Committee, a new campaign has been launched to find ways and means to oppose the US aggressive war, demand the return of their dear ones from the army and combat social scourges, especially prostitution which is now plaguing South Viet Nam, as a sequel of the presence of hundreds of thousands of GIs. Though nascent, the drive has been adhered to by a great many women and other sections of the population and has hit home at the aggressive war of US imperialism. Their recent statement against the rape of two women at Binh Tuy by US troops has made clear who is responsible for the sufferings of women.

The workers, Buddhists and other strata of the people who have been battling for their rights have greatly contributed to the urban agitation.

TOGETHER with the successes of the South Viet Nam PLAF including the Saigon regional troops, the South Viet Nam townsfolk's protest has made the place hot for Thieu-Ky-Khiem. The tottering regime propped up by US bayonets has grown shakier than ever. Meanwhile in the Saigon cockpit, the quislings are ready to get at one other's throat for the place of obedient servants of the US Nguyen Van Thieu has been trying hard to consolidate his position and to do away with his adversaries.

(Continued page 5)

Students' sit-in before the Saigon puppet National Assembly for an end to repression, release of their comrades, and US withdrawal from SVN.

Anti-US-puppet demonstration by the puppet war invalids forcibly sent to the battlefield

"Hells-on-Earth" Not Only in Poulo Condor

Editor's Note.— *Miss Nguyen Thi Hong, for many years jailed by the US-puppets in several prisons as Poulo Condor, Phu Quoc, Thu Duc etc., recently wrote to American Doctor Marjorie Nelson who had denounced before the US House Foreign Relations Commission the brutalities against South Vietnamese detainees in the US-puppet Quang Ngai province "Reeducation Centre."*

After expressing her warm feeling and deep thanks for Mrs Marjorie Nelson's valiant action, Nguyen Thi Hong exposed the US-puppet prison regime and atrocities against her and other fellow-prisoners.

The letter reads as follows:

"... THE barbarous tortures of patriots you have so energetically condemned are part of the countless crimes committed by the US and puppets against my fellow-prisoners and myself in the jails of South Viet Nam.

An orphan since my childhood, I lived with my sister, and worked at Nha Rong company, Saigon. In 1955, 18 years old, I was arrested with thousands of others after taking part in a huge demonstration in favour of South-North consultations and general elections to reunify the country. 7 years' imprisonment followed (1955-1957, then 1960-1964) during which I was sent from one jail to another.

First, it was the Catinat Street police station, Saigon. Three times a day (morning, afternoon and evening) I was tortured, and many times to insensibility.

The brute that handled me directly was a Vietnamese. But, an American came in every few weeks, accompanied by two or three Vietnamese. After each visit by the American, I noticed, a new technique was applied on me. They beat me. They poured soapy water, mixed with quick-lime, into my mouth and nose, then trampled upon my belly to force the water out, together with food and blood. They connected my secret parts to live wire. This latter technique made my whole body curl up in agony; and when it was over, I was left in a half-coma and could neither walk nor speak. Many times, my fingers and toes were nailed to a table throughout the long hours' interrogation.

Having used all techniques without obtaining from me any valuable information, they deported me to Phu Quoc island (early 1956). With me were about 600 people, including 15 women. There were Bang, 6, and her 4-year-old brother, arrested with their father. There were also 2 ladies in their seventies: Mrs. Hai, a devout Catholic and wife of a high official in Saigon, and Mrs. Lang, wife of a Saigon lawyer.

At Phu Quoc, the inmates were chained together, in groups of from 15 to 20, in tin-roofed, wall-less buildings surrounded with dozens of barbed-wire entanglements. There, it was as hot as an oven in the daytime; while at night, the sea wind blew in a tearing cold. Brutal beating, hard labour (fetching firewood, building airstrips, etc.) and undernourishment (a bowl of rice with decaying dried fish, or a rotten egg) made diseases rampant. Not a single day passed without a prisoner's death. Women-detainees were abused by the guards. We resisted and were savagely beaten.

In 1957, Phu Quoc jail was dismantled. I was sent to Poulo Condor (now Con Son) with many others. Upon seeing us, the chief-jailer sneered threateningly: "It's a short way to Poulo Condor, but a long way from it!" In fact, many prisoners never came out of it.

We were thrown into confinement cells: black-walled, about 2 meters long 1 meter wide and over 1 meter high. There was no light. First, 4 people were kept in one, then more and more, sometimes even 12 or 13. It was so hot that we had to take off all clothes and cut off our hair. Many fainted in the suffocating heat.

There was a "toilet bucket" in each cell, and dirty water filtering out of it formed a stream before the cells. Every time our meals were brought in, the bowls of rice swarmed with blue-bottles. There was no medical care, and a slight disease easily led to death. There were, of course, tortures of all kinds.

We were asked to "denounce Communists" and to "renounce," but we did not know whom to denounce, nor what to renounce. Thus, we were flung into a dark cell. This was built with stones, deep underground. The walls were always dripping-wet, and it was bitterly cold. It was overcrowded, and at night, half the internees had to remain sitting while the other half lay down. Among us were ladies in their fifties and sixties, a mother with her baby, and an expectant mother named Bich (the child later came to life in jail). Not allowed to wash, we all had skin diseases. Things were worse when our periods came.

Lack of vitamins brought about grave diseases: dysentery, tuberculosis, paralysis and mental illness...

Some time later, after strong protests from public opinion in Saigon and elsewhere against the detention and illtreatment of women-prisoners in Poulo Condor, I was transferred to Saigon with a few others. I was detained in Gia Dinh jail, where a savage torture-session knocked me down. For three days, I lay unconscious and afterwards was sent to Cho Ray hospital. Convinced that I could never survive, they notified my relatives to come and take my body home. Thus, I found myself among my dear ones again.

Not for long, however! Only a few years later, I was again arrested. Again, for 5 years (1960-1964), I was led from one jail to another: General Police Headquarters, Gia Dinh, Chi Hoa, Thu Duc, Phu Loi.

"Let's remember My Lai!": Such is the slogan planted on a symbol grave where Mme and Mr. Claire Cahen (Canadians) pitch their tent in protest against US massacres of the Vietnamese people

Again, tortures. At the Police Headquarters, my thighs were burnt and pierced with red-hot iron sticks. The wounds, neither given medical care nor even washed, soon were infested with maggots. Many times, skewers were plunged into my most sensitive parts, and as they were withdrawn, blood spurted out profusely. More horrifying still was the snake trick: thrown into my trousers as I was forced to squat down, the reptiles, while trying to find their way out, slithered into my genitals caused a most excruciating pain. I had also to stand close to a powerful electric lamp (100 watts or more), and ordered to stare at it...

Though out of jail for many years and given considerable treatment, I remain very weak and ill. My stomach and intestines are worst affected, and I still have diarrhoea and often vomit blood. The right half of my body still aches at the slightest movement. One of my big toes is still swollen, and it often bleeds and suppurates.

I hope your objective voice will help progressive people in America and the world over see more clearly the brutal realities in South Viet Nam, so that more and more people will strongly demand that the US Government and the Saigon puppet regime end their crimes against patriots detained in the "hells-on-earth" they have created on our land. I believe that people of goodwill will not turn a blind eye to these gruesome crimes, and will do their best to put an early end to them.

Yours most gratefully
NGUYEN THI HONG

An Unwelcome Guest!

AFTER for a while edged out by "President" Nguyen Van Thieu into "angling parties and cock-fighting" in Nha Trang, Vice-President Nguyen Cao Ky recently raised a ballyhoo to draw public attention to himself by saying that he might be murdered during his trip to America. This, he hoped, would be regarded by his fellow-countrymen and friends as "a death in action"! (*AFP*, September 20).

Ky's long-dreamed-of US visit had not been so far okayed by his US boss. This time, invited by Pastor Carl McIntire to back a warlike move of the White House in a meeting held on October 3, he hurriedly seized this chance by the forelock to show Thieu what stuff he was made of.

But sad news came from America.

Many US Senators dissuaded Ky from making the tour, among them Gordon Allott, Chairman of the Senate Republican Commission for Policies; John Stennis, Chairman of the Senate Commission for Armed Forces; M. Mansfield, Democratic Majority leader in the Senate. G. Allott said, the United States has no use for such interference as Ky's. He will not get the support he hopes for, but instead a strong reaction against his wish (*UPI*).

AFP reported that on the same day the American progressive students' organization would stage a demonstration against the aggressive war in Viet Nam to oppose the "march for victory" in which Ky would participate in Washington. The London Washington *Times* correspondent revealed that in the United States many groups would hold demonstrations against Ky's visit, which moreover has been ignored by the White House and objected to by the State Department... (*BBC*, September 22). In answer to a press question whether Ky would be received by Nixon, White House spokesman Ziegler told that Ky's trip would be a private one (*UPI*, September 21).

All that is tantamount to a cold shower for Ky who nevertheless has decided not to be discouraged. An inveterate playboy, he has chosen Paris as a stop over to see how the land lies. From there he could rush to America or stay on and have a good time in Boulogne woods and at Montmartre!

More about this will be heard. But so far it seems that Ky is dead-set to make the tour all the same.

The way to true peace:

TOTAL AND UNCONDITIONAL US PULL-OUT

TOTAL and unconditional withdrawal of US troops from South Viet Nam has become now the battle cry of world progressives. In many countries, from big ones like the USSR, China and India to small, remote ones in the Arctic, men and women of feeling are chanting it. In the US itself, the aggressor's land, where he has been inducting troops for South Viet Nam, it has become the objective of a widespread and ebullient movement.

It is no accident that people in different parts of the world are thinking and acting in unison. It is not at all fortuitous either, of course, that wide segments of the American people, having differing interests, are nurturing the same earnest desire.

Is it for the sake of humanity, of Americans' family happiness, of the honour of the United States? Certainly. But in the United States itself and in other lands, people want such a course of action because it is the only way to terminate the US aggressive war, restore peace in Viet Nam and put an end to the agonies of the Vietnamese and world peoples.

No doubt, the present grave situation in South Viet Nam has resulted from the war-fomenting, aggressive policy of Yankee imperialism. Till the 1967-1968 dry season, the US expeditionary forces counted more than 550,000 men, let alone the troop-strength of the 7th Fleet on permanent duty, off the Vietnamese coast. At that time, the Saigon army numbered more than half a million men, not to mention the regionals-militia and civil guards. With such an adequately equipped force, the Americans brought "limited warfare" in South Viet Nam to an unprecedented fury. They launched large-scale "sweeps" with at times well over ten thousand troops, carried out B-52 saturation bombings on the countryside and mountain regions, and used chemical agents against civilians, food crops and domestic animals. Medieval massacres by GIs of the Son My type have been shockingly frequent. Each sortie rate is nearing the 10-thousand mark. And on the average each inhabitant has had a share of 6 pounds of chemical products sprayed throughout South Viet Nam. A tiger-cage-type prison network was erected throughout South Viet Nam for scores of thousands of patriots and those who stood for peace and neutrality.

The war has not only generated disastrous consequences for the South Vietnamese but wreaked untold sufferings and mournings on the American people as well. The latter have had to pay for and go it going and their sons and husbands have had to fight it on the battlefield. US economy has been in serious regression and unemployment on the increase, month after month. War spending has been rising rapidly over the years to the detriment of social programs such as education and housing. Social disturbances have reached a level unknown thus far. Never has the US witnessed an opposition of so large proportions to the government's policies as today; never has the administration, during the tenures of 37 presidents, been torn with so sharp differences as under Nixon. The war has eroded the honour of the American people, possessed of fine traditions of liberty and justice.

The above situation explains why the South Vietnamese, American and world peoples have set their minds on the fulfilment of their present watchword. It also accounts for the world and American peoples' approval and support of the 10-point overall solution proposed by the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and the SVNR Provisional Revolutionary Government.

THE said plan is a great peace initiative. It reflects the sound position and goodwill of the NFL and the PRG of the SVNR which are getting the upper hand of US imperialism.

It is logical and reasonable as its main contents aim at nothing else than guaranteeing the Vietnamese and people's national fundamental rights which have solemnly been recognized by the 1954 Geneva Agreements. It demands that the US government end its aggression and pull out American troops from South Viet Nam to let the South Vietnamese people decide themselves their own affairs. Indeed, there is no other solution.

How can genuine peace return to Viet Nam so long as the US aggressive war drags on? How can one speak of South Viet Nam's independence and liberty so long as the US aggressors and their henchmen remain here? How can one terminate the sufferings of the Vietnamese and American peoples if the US government refuses to repatriate all US forces, a step which is an imperative one at this juncture and an absolutely logical requirement of the South Vietnamese and Americans alike.

84 sessions of the Paris Conference later, Nixon is still persisting in refusing to meet this demand. He is sticking to his absurd "mutual troop-withdrawal" proposal and maintaining his conditions for the pull-out of US forces in a bid to eschew this fundamental question. Why should there be "mutual troop-withdrawal"? Should Vietnamese pull out of their own country? Where should they go? They are fighters against aggression in their own land. They have taken up arms for the defence of their country's independence and liberty. Therefore, "mutual troop-withdrawal" is out of the question.

Foreign troops in South Viet Nam are American and satellite ones. The only aggressor in SVN is the US expeditionary corps. They must withdraw from Viet Nam, from South Viet Nam totally and unconditionally.

To lay down terms for the withdrawal of American troops is sheer arrogance on the part of the US government. Has any aggressor, and a losing one at that, the right to do so with his winning victim? Such a procedure is acceptable only by the highway-man's logic. As a matter of fact, the US intention behind all this is to make white black, to put on an equal footing the aggressor and his victim, in order to preserve and drag out occupation of SVN by its troops.

Nixon cannot go on acting the way his own wishful thinking prompts him to. The predicament of his expeditionary troops in SVN, disturbances in the US itself, the strong movement of the world peoples for the pull-out of US forces are exerting too strong a pressure for the American president to stand indefinitely on his guns. He has made forced troop cutbacks by dribblets. That is not a measure to end the war, but something to "anaesthetize" internal and external opposition, a move to prolong US military occupation and protract indefinitely US aggression under the "Vietnamization" program.

Nixon's preposterousness and pervertness regarding the troop-withdrawal question are at the bottom of the Paris Conference's deadlock and the deteriorating tension in Viet Nam and Indochina. Naturally his dragging out and expanding the war will only invite stronger ripostes from the peoples of Viet Nam, Cambodia and Laos. However, in compliance with the desire for peace of the Vietnamese, American and world peoples, and in an effort to push up the Paris talks, Minister Nguyen Thi Binh, Chief Delegate of the SVNR Provisional Revolutionary Government, has stated, on the latter's instructions, at the conference, her government's readiness to discuss with the other parties the question of ensuring safety for the withdrawing US units and the release of prisoners if the US government declares it will totally and unconditionally pull out its forces before June 30, 1971.

World progressive opinion has acclaimed this as a consequential peace initiative, a reasonable proposal of the SVNR Provisional Revolutionary Government, which reflects its humanitarian policy and deep concern about the earnest desire of the American people.

The deadline suggested for US troop-withdrawal is fair and reasonable. Many among American political circles also think it necessary to set a time-table. In an article in the *New York Times* (July 5, 1970), Senator E. Muskie expressed the belief that a withdrawal time-table was a meaningful thing, and, among many others, the sole measure likely to bring peace. The United States, he added, should work out a definite time-table for the total pull-out of American forces from Indochina, and strictly abide by it. Senators Cooper and Gore considered Minister Nguyen Thi Binh's explanation on a number of points in the 10-point overall solution an acceptable offer.

On the other hand, through its spokesman, the US administration let it be known it does not believe in the advisability of announcing a time-table. A year ago (Sept. 26) Nixon himself said that a deadline for the withdrawal, say, by the end of 1969 or mid-1971 would prolong the hostilities until that date and spoil any opportunity to attain the objective that he could achieve, that is, to terminate the war, before the end of 1970 or toward the middle of 1971. Realities in South Viet Nam in the recent past have unmistakably demonstrable for the US President's refusal to make public a time-table has been prompted by his intention not to totally and unconditionally pull out American and satellite troops from SVN, and to prolong US military occupation to bring "Vietnamization" to fruition. This dark design of his was manifest in his November 3, 1969 speech in which he said a precipitate withdrawal would cause a bloodbath and lead to the collapse of confidence in the United States. A honey tongue and a heart of gall! Few in the world now have any doubt about Mr Nixon's responsibility for the most fiendish atrocities and the most savage massacres in man's history committed in South Viet Nam. He has continued introducing US and satellite troops into SVN to carry on an aggressive war whose horrors are too revolting for words. Therefore the withdrawal of all US troops will end the tragedy of the Vietnamese people. As far as it is concerned, in implementation of the policy of national unity and humanitarianism of the SVN National Front for Liberation, the SVNR Provisional Revolutionary Government advocates the formation of an interim coalition government comprising personalities of the PRG, those of the Saigon administration who are for peace, independence, neutrality and democracy, and those of various political complexions and religious creeds who favour the same, including persons who, for political reasons, have had to take up residence abroad. The PRG also proposes prohibition of all terror and reprisals against those who have collaborated with either side. Such an unequivocal humanitarian policy, such a policy of national concord, will provide a sure guarantee to a truly peaceful life in independence and freedom after the departure of US troops from SVN. It is in this spirit that Senator Muskie has taken Nixon to task, saying that if the war continues thousands more will be massacred.

Indisputably, the war path has led Nixon into an impasse, a blind alley — one which has been ever more grievously dimming the image of the United States. The US is afraid of losing face in Asia and the world, as the result of a unilateral troop-withdrawal, wrote Townsend Hoopes in the *Washington Post* (Nov. 2, 1969), but because of the very nature of the fact, the Americans cannot possibly expect that their shameful history will remain unsmeared for ever, particularly since their intervention has expanded to the globe.

The arguments used so far by Nixon to postpone a total troop-withdrawal are not founded. They have been rejected by public opinion as pleas to justify his "token" withdrawals and his "Vietnamization."

THE aggressive policy of US imperialism grosaly encroaches upon the fundamental rights of the Vietnamese people and the right to self-determination of their Southern fellow-countrymen. It is the root and immediate cause of all the evils suffered by the South Vietnamese, Khmer, Laos and American peoples.

Therefore, to restore peace in Viet Nam, peacefully settle the South Vietnamese problem, one cannot let the US aggressive war drag on and the proposed total and unconditional withdrawal of US troops from SVN remain ignored. That is not just the pressing requirement of a peaceful settlement but the eager desire of the Vietnamese and world peoples as well. The total pull-out of US forces from SVN is the only way, also the only way to extricate Nixon from the Vietnamese, Indochinese and American quagmires.

One way or another, US troops must withdraw from SVN, Cambodia and Laos. The point is how to do it and this depends upon the US President. If his administration obstinately refuses to follow the path shown by the 10-point overall solution of the SVN National Front for Liberation and the SVNR Provisional Revolutionary Government, the Vietnamese, in coordination with the Khmer and Lao peoples, will resolutely fight to sweep the invaders out of their countries. And such is the set purpose of the successful victims of aggression.

The Commentator

NEW PROMOTION OF HERO UNITS AND HEROES

ON the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the outbreak of *the Nam Bo Resistance* (South Viet Nam) (September 23), the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam issued a decision conferring **the title of "Hero Unit" and "Hero" on 6 units and 13 individuals** of the PLAF for their combat exploits and their achievements in the building of the liberation armed forces in the struggle against US aggression, for national salvation.

Following are *the newly decorated units*:

● **The 49th Battalion** of the army supply service on the Eastern Nam Bo battlefield;

● **The 3rd Infantry Company** of the main force on the Central Nam Bo battlefield (in the Mekong Delta);

● **The 1st Frontline Surgical Team** in Ben Tre province on the Central Nam Bo battlefield (in the Mekong Delta);

● **The Infantry Company X** of the regional forces in Soc Trang province on the Western Nam Bo battlefield (in the Mekong Delta);

● **The 2nd Infantry Company** of Unit X of the main forces on the Saigon battlefield;

● **The guerilla unit of village N.** on the Saigon battlefield.

And here are *the newly cited heroes* of the PLAF:

1. — R'Chom Ock of the Gia Rai nationality, village military commander in Gia Lai province on the Central Trung Bo battlefield (Central Viet Nam);

2. — Vo Van Tang, platoon commander of the artillery forces in Gia Lai province on the Central Trung Bo battlefield (Central Viet Nam);

3. — Nguyen Van Muoi (posthumously decorated), guerilla in My Tho province, on the Central Nam Bo battlefield (the Mekong Delta);

4. — Le Van Phich, deputy platoon commander of the regional forces in Ben Tre province on the Central Nam Bo battlefield (the Mekong Delta);

5. — Le Thanh, deputy battallion political instructor of the regional forces in Ben Tre province on the Central Nam Bo battlefield (the Mekong Delta);

6. — Vo Viet Thanh, deputy company commander of an arms workshop in Ben Tre province on the Central Nam Bo battlefield (the Mekong Delta);

7. — Huynh Phi Hung (posthumously decorated), deputy platoon commander of the 3rd Infantry Company on the Western Nam Bo battlefield (the Mekong Delta);

8. — Nguyen Van Buu, assistant doctor, company political instructor, Western Nam Bo battlefield (the Mekong Delta);

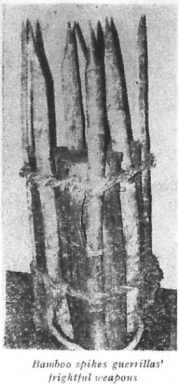
9. — Hoang Dao Cat, deputy company commander, Western Nam Bo battlefield (the Mekong Delta);

10. — Le Van Tuan, scout platoon commander of the regional forces in Rach Gia province, Western Nam Bo battlefield (the Mekong Delta);

11. — Lam Tuong, Khmer nationality, deputy commander of an engineering platoon of the regional forces in Soc Trang province, Western Nam Bo battlefield (the Mekong Delta);

12. — Le Minh Xuan (posthumously decorated); deputy platoon commander of the liberation main forces, Saigon battlefield;

13. — Bui Van Cuong, village military commander, Saigon battlefield.



Bamboo spikes guerrillas' frightful weapons

GUERRILLA WARFARE, INVINCIBLE FORCE

SEPTEMBER 23, 1945 will be remembered by the Vietnamese people as the momentous beginning of an unprecedented widespread guerrilla movement in their fight against imperialism. The South Vietnamese people have been recapitulating their rich experience in this field over the last quarter of a century in their tireless defence of the fatherland, to increase their combat capabilities and effectiveness.

We know by experience that **in guerrilla warfare everyone can become a combatant.** "When the enemy irrupts into the house, even women fly to arms," says a Vietnamese proverb. In essence, guerrilla warfare consists in confronting an adverse force with a smaller one. However weak, any person can manage to fight, provided he is actuated by ardent patriotism and a profound hatred for his country's foe. Protests, self-defence actions, sabotage, *coups de main* — there exists a great variety of methods to cope with the adversary, which explains why in South Viet Nam, millions of people, children and old men and women in the plains as well as n the mountains, have turned remarkable guerrillas, and thousands upon thousands have been awarded the title of "élite fighters." The guerrilla force has grown up in both number and quality. Our enemy has proved unable to understand such a phenomenon; for the French in the past every Vietnamese was a Viet Minh and for the Americans now every South Vietnamese is a Viet Cong. They do not heed these words that a French experienced commander — colonel Le Page — had told his Vietnamese captors in 1950: *"You won because you had the people on your side. Not only men but women too were in the front-line."*

It is also common knowledge, that **in guerrilla warfare every weapon can be used against the foe.** Calling on his people throughout the country to rise up against the French invaders on December 19, 1946, President Ho Chi Minh said: **"Those who have rifles will use rifles; those who have swords will use their swords; those who have no swords will use spades, hoes or sticks. Everyone must endeavour to fight the colonialists and save his country."**

The guerrilla fighter does not slight any weapon, not even the most rudimentary one. He therefore has at his disposal a whole arsenal including from booby traps, spike pits, and light infantry weapons to time-bombs and the latest things in military technique. Ironically enough, GIs armed to the teeth flee helter-skelter from assailing hornets, rolling stones, spike boards falling on their heads. It is safe to say that men of no other army command so diverse a weaponry as the guerrillas.

It is a fact that **guerrilla warfare make it possible to attack at any time, anywhere and on any scale, in other words, to hold the complete initiative of action.**

Whatever his age and size, the guerrilla is courageous and very resourceful. In combat, he resembles a feather-weight boxer, swift, agile, as though he had "eyes at the back of his head". He knows where and when his opponent is exposed to wear him out, unless the latter is knocked down in the middle of the fight.

The guerrilla is ubiquitous. He is present wherever the enemy is. Neither bombs nor shells, neither concrete nor steel, neither rain nor shine, neither day nor night prevents him from following on his foe's heels. He sticks to his village where he earns his living, and knows every one of its nook and corner like the palm of his hand. Guerrilla warfare can rage not only in the hills and forests and countryside but also in the towns and cities, the enemy's sanctuaries. No wonder that the guerrilla operates at the gate of Nguyen Van Thieu's Independence Palace or breaks into the American ambassador's bedroom. It is the secker who is sought out.

IN the people's war to carry out social revolution or repel foreign aggression, **guerrilla warfare assumes a strategic, decisive role**: In our nine-year resistance to the French colonialists, it made the most important contribution to forcing them to give up their attempt to reconquer our country and to recognize our national fundamental rights. In our present effort against US imperialism, it is playing a still more prominent part.

Indeed, **it foils every strategy and tactics of the adversary, cuts off his life lines and damages his sources of supply and rear bases, thus preparing the battlefield for our regulars and helping them decimate and destroy adverse forces.** In ten years, and in South Viet Nam alone, the number of enemy casualties and troops disbanded amounted to two million.

Guerrilla warfare considerably **reduces the effectiveness of the sophisticated technical equipment and immense fire-power** with which the aggressors hope to overcome their opponent. Nonetheless, coping in this frontless war with, as the Americans themselves put it, "the best guerrillas in human history," far from being able to make the most of their fortes, they still more vulnerably expose their foibles. During the above-said period, they lost over 25,000 aircraft, nearly 62,000 armoured cars, tanks and warships (including 10,000 — and 15,000-ton units), and about a hundred thousand guns of different calibers.

Guerrilla warfare has frustrated all of the enemy's pacification programs. A "state policy" under Ngo Dinh Diem, to be implemented within eighteen months according to the Staley-Taylor plan, and the "backbone" of Nixon's Vietnamization policy, pacification has faile dismally throughout the years. The deployment of big forces couple with the use of most ruthless political means have not succeeded in confining civilians in definite concentration areas.

Mass uprisings have pulled down "strategic hamlets" to erect in their place combat villages and strongholds around adverse bases, a job that could not have been done without armed forces on the spot — the guerrillas. Successes of great consequence over recent months on the anti-pacification front have spelled out the initial failure of Vietnamization and heralded its ultimate fiasco.

No one else than our enemy themselves has recognized the tremendous, irresistible power of guerrilla warfare. Nowadays, says an American supporter of US aggression, the world must cope with two terrible weapons: the 100-megaton H-bomb and the spikes planted in Vietnamese paddies.

As a matter of fact, guerrilla has become a science with a great appeal particularly to small peoples in search for a path to their liberation and their right to live in justice and genuine peace.

THANH HONG

Saigon's "freedom of the press"

THE Saigon press has held a series of emergency meetings to support and co-ordinate its action with the students and pupils' persistent and vigorous protest against the puppet administration.

At 5 p.m. on August 30, immediately after the savage police action against students, pupils and journalists at the Saigon "Press Center," the "Journalists' Committee for the Defence of Journalism" called an emergency meeting. The participants accused the authorities of having detained journalists Dinh Ky Quoc and Nguyen Manh Hieu for eleven hours after seizing their films. Journalist Nguyen Trong whose Lambretta was broken to pieces had also been ill-treated. In spite of her bad health, woman correspondent Doan Thuy of the daily *Dan Chu Moi* was insulted and beaten with cudgels, trampled underfoot and imprisoned by the field police. Her female colleague Lam Truyen of the paper *Tia Sang* was hit on her head by cudgels and trampled on her belly. The police confiscated the press card of Tran Phong and roughly handled many foreign correspondents among them the *UPI* correspondent...

In the course of the meeting, a journalist vehemently condemned the Thieu-Ky-Khiem clique: "The present regime has never ceased to call on citizens to contribute to freedom and democracy, whereas democratic liberties are being cynically violated by the so-called 'people's friends' and 'defenders and keepors of law'.

Truong Si Tan, Head of the Saigon police and so-called "competent" magistrate, was sharply criticized for having commanded the repressive operation against the journalists.

Following the meeting, the Saigon press carried articles, photos, and commentaries strongly critical of the August 30 action.

The papers *Tia Sang*, *Cong Luan* and *Duoc Nha Nam* front-paged big photos recording scenes of field-policemen with steel-helmets, cudgels and revolvers brutally falling upon students, pupils and newsmen.

Under the title "The press is launching a large-scale offensive against the republican forces," the paper *Tin Mat* wrote a virulent article "When even journalists are beaten... the constitution is also beaten."

Many papers related that Huynh Tan Mam, Chairman of the Saigon Students' General Association, had been grievously wounded by the police and threatened with trial before the "military court." They paper *Tia Sang* gave this detail: "Informed that Huynh Tan Mam had been seriously injured, a Vietnamese woman called on us and donated 5,000 piastres for the student leader. She cried until she fainted in our editorial office."

"We demand that the journalists' minimum right to carry out their duties be respected," such was the headline of an article front-paged by the *Dan Chu Moi*. The article said: "How can shameless and unjustified ill-treatment of Vietnamese and foreign journalists kill a paper, or prevent critical articles and commentaries from being circulated throughout the country and the world?... We strongly protest against rough handling of journalists on duty and urge measures be taken to safeguard the right of the press, at least in the heart of this capital of our South Viet Nam. Otherwise the authorities will be held responsible for the unforeseeable consequences from the reaction of authentic press circles."

Public feeling has understandably been running higher and higher against the Thieu-Ky-Khiem repression of the press and the youth.

ANTI-AMERICANISM *PREVALENT* IN SAIGON

USIS of August 13, 1970 carried excerpts from an article by Laurence Stern in the *New York Times* about anti-Americanism in "Saigon, which said among other things that Saigon had uneasily returned to normal after many months of turmoil due to the demonstrations of students, Buddhists, war invalids and police repression, but the talk among the American colony was about growing anti-Americanism in the city...

The attitude of the Vietnamese with regard to the Americans as a whole is one of dependence mixed with covert resentment or even with outright hostility.

In fact, anti-Americanism mood has been prevalent here, especially among the impotent and fragmented opposition against the administration of President Thieu. Even in the (puppet) government a high official complained that the Vietnamese had to get their major projects visaed by the Americans...

An influential opponent of the regime also remarked that this anti-Americanism was not spearheaded at the Americans in the street but at US interference in Viet Nam and the US Embassy's intervention in Viet Nam's affairs.

A leader of the opposition went even further when he said that US withdrawal would leave the Viet Cong with no reason to continue the fighting. All these views sound ungrateful (!), foolish or stubborn for the Americans. But for the Saigonese, who are fence-sitters regarding the war, these views seem logic.

Price hike, a result of the running inflation in South Viet Nam, has been clamped on the workers, employees, civil servants, teachers who constitute the biggest forces which can be united in the towns.

Everyday the poor Saigonese run into well-off Americans walking out of their PXs with their bags filled with fresh meat and canned food, or spending the equivalent of a teacher's monthly wage with a girl in Tu Do street. Under Saigon's brilliant face one feels a social discontentment among the silent majority of Vietnamese with regard to the war, the high living costs, the unstable life...

For an American who walks in Saigon by day or by night, this is a matter for deep concern.

Bumper crop in our liberated zone

Mounting political...

(*Continued from page 1*)

Thieu-Ky-Khiem have been stopping at no atrocity to maintain their rule. They besieged the Saigon Students' General Association, arrested and brutalized students including Huynh Tan Mam, chairman of that Association just released by them a few days earlier. With regard to the press, they resorted to harsh police measures and confiscated issues running articles giving a true picture of the Saigon society, denouncing the Thieu-Ky-Khiem rule and castigating the US war of aggression. Within three months, Tin Sang (Morning News) *was suspended 73 times. Other papers were also persecuted.*

The Saigon quislings are now trying to brandish the puppet army, by promoting and raising the pays of wicked thugs and field police. All means are fair for them to wipe out their opponents: "weeps", killings, chemical sprayings and atrocities like the "tiger cages."

Because of their fascist dictatorial character, Thieu-Ky-Khiem have met with stiff opposition from the urban population. And to consolidate their position, they are becoming more fascist, and this vicious circle will take them to their doom. The turmoil now rocking South Viet Nam urban centres clearly reflects the great weakness and isolation of the Saigon quislings. Those who are against them demand the formation in Saigon of an administration from which they must be banned, an administration which stands for peace, independence, neutrality and democracy and will seriously engage in negotiations with the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam. Only with such an administration can the cherished aspirations of the townspeople be achieved.

The urban people's drive has gone through hard trials and experienced great hardships but has been making steady advances. Its progress proves that no perfidious means, no cruelties on the part of the enemy can prevail over their hatred, determination and solidarity. On the contrary the harder their trial, the more they are tempered and the greater their experience in struggle. Upholding a just cause, supported by people of the whole country and united with all strata of the population, they will certainly win final victory over the Thieu-Ky-Khiem clique and their American bosses.

SOUTH VIET NAM

NATIONAL DAY GREETINGS TO THE BROTHERLY CHINESE PEOPLE

TWENTY-ONE years ago, at the gorgeous Tien An Men reviewing stand, Chairman Mao Tsetung solemnly proclaimed the People's Republic of China. Since then, an immense country with 1/4 of the world population has been tilting the balance of forces to the advantage of the forces of independence, peace, democracy and social progress in the world and has become a firm prop for oppressed peoples engaged in the struggle for liberation.

The imperialists, particularly the US imperialists, and their Chiang Kai Shek agents thought the Chinese people would be able to achieve little with the wretched legacy they had left behind. But they were completely out of calculation.

Under the Chinese Communist Party headed by Chairman Mao, they have courageously stood all trials and have been steadily and vigorously advancing in the work of transforming half-feudal and half-colonial China into a socialist power with modern industry, agriculture and national defence and developed culture and science.

Over the recent years, she has recorded tremendous achievements in atomic and space sciences. Her first satellite has been orbited, and filled the imperialists with admiration and alarm as well.

The South Vietnamese people and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the SVN Republic hail with elation those accomplishments as their own. They view with deep indignation US occupation of Taiwan, an indivisible part of Chinese territory, and unreservedly take sides with the Chinese people in their effort to liberate it.

In their own resistance against US aggression, for national salvation, the South Vietnamese have been benefiting from the brother Chinese people's wholehearted, considerable and effective help, which has greatly contributed to their successes.

The great leader of people's China, Chairman Mao has said: "The SVN people and the Vietnamese people as a whole can rest assured that their fight is our fight, that 700 million Chinese are their mighty rearguard and that immense China is their reliable rear base." There cannot be a fuller expression of the Chinese people's staunch support for our resistance, support which has been also extended to the Cambodian and Lao peoples.

The SVN people pledge to make the fullest use of such a support and to live up to the confidence of their Chinese brothers.

With these words of President Ho Chi Minh's: "The Vietnamese-Chinese affection is that of comrades and of brothers," they will cultivate and strengthen their militant solidarity with the fraternal Chinese people.

On the occasion of this grand festive day of China, the people, National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the South Viet Nam Republic wish the Chinese Communist Party, People and Government, led by revered Chairman Mao Tsetung more and more splendid successes in all fields.

May South Viet Nam — China militant solidarity and friendship last for ever!

VALUABLE SUPPORT — GREAT ENCOURAGEMENT

THE just voice of the delegation of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the South Viet Nam Republic led by Mme Nguyen Thi Binh, Minister for Foreign Affairs, has resounded from Lusaka, capital of the Republic of Zambia.

The delegates listened with deep emotion when Mme Nguyen Thi Binh made clear the position of the SVNR PRG with regard to the Non-Aligned countries and its total support for the anti-imperialist struggle and against racial discrimination. Almost all the heads of state and representatives of the Non-Aligned countries as well as representatives of national liberation movements expressed their sympathy with, and warm support to, the South Vietnamese people's resistance against US aggression and their deep indignation at the US imperialists' atrocities in South Viet Nam. They affirmed the determination of the Conference to demand that the US imperialists quit Indochina and let the Indochinese peoples decide themselves their own future.

Press opinion in Zambia and other countries in the world regarded the presence of the SVNR PRG delegation at the Conference as an event of historic significance, a great achievement of the South Vietnamese people on the diplomatic front, and a glaring setback of the US imperialists and their lackeys. For all efforts of the US imperialists to pressurize a number of governments, the meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the Non-Aligned countries agreed to invite the delegation of the PRG of the SVNR to the Summit Conference of Non-Aligned Countries as an observer.

This fact eloquently proved that the South Vietnamese people's just struggle enjoyed ever wider sympathy and support in the world. It also showed that the SVNR PRG is an authentic exponent of the aspirations and interests of the entire South Vietnamese people, and their only legal government.

Greatly alarmed by this development, the US lackeys in Saigon have been trying hard to disparage the Conference, terming its act "iniquitable." But this is only the outcry of a clique of traitors in their utter isolation on the international arena.

The Non-Aligned Summit Conference adopted a resolution condemning the US aggression in Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia, demanding the US withdrawal from Indochina. This resolution constituted a telling blow to the aggressors and their lackeys. It also showed that from now on the Indochinese peoples' effort against the US imperialist aggressors and their agents would enjoy warmer support from a big community of nations in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

The South Vietnamese people, the National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the SVNR highly appreciate the support of the Non-Aligned Summit Conference, as a valuable support and a great moral encouragement to the Indochinese peoples in their fight to defeat their enemy.

They thank the Conference for its warm support and express their deep gratitude to the heads of state of a number of countries for their wholehearted support to the delegation of the SVNR PRG. They express gratitude to the heads of state and peoples of Tanzanya and Zambia for the cordial reception and hospitality accorded to Minister Nguyen Thi Binh.

They are determined to do their utmost to contribute to the Non-Aligned countries' activities for various liberation movements against imperialism and old and new colonialism, for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress.

For an ever stauncher SOUTH VIETNAMESE—MALI militant solidarity

TEN years ago, on September 22, 1960, an event of paramount importance took place in Mali: a Congress of People's Representatives passed a political resolution to found the Republic of Mali and sever all ties with the French empire.

This historic development marked a great success of the Malian people in their persevering and valiant struggle for independence and freedom.

Since then, following in the steps of their indomitable and illustrious national hero Babamba, the Malian people have unflinchingly been fighting to defend and consolidate their national independence, build a prosperous country actively support the national liberation movements in Africa, and strengthen their unity with the Asian, African and Latin American peoples in the common effort against imperialism and colonialism headed by US aggressor imperialism. The momentous September 22, 1960 decision has made possible the consolidation and development of the friendship and militant solidarity between the Vietnamese and Malian peoples.

Over the past years, the Malian Government and people have thrown in their lots with the South Vietnamese people's resistance against US aggression, for national salvation. On many occacions, Malian state leaders and mass organizations have voiced their full support to the ten-point overall solution of the National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam. The early recognition of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam by the Republic of Mali was a new and vigorous step to enhance the friendship and militant solidarity between the fraternal South Vietnamese and Malian peoples. Bamako, the heart of heroic and hospitable Mali, extended a warm and dignified welcome to the Delegation of the National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government, led by Mr. Nguyen Van Quang, special envoy of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the South Viet Nam Republic coming on a friendly visit at the end of last year. On this occasion, Head of State Moussa Traore warmly praised the South Vietnamese people and wished them an early final victory. The Malian people have also held many big meetings and adopted many resolutions greeting the successes of the South Vietnamese army and people, and sternly condemning the atrocious war of aggression waged by the US imperialists in South Viet Nam.

We deeply thank the fraternal Malian people and Government for their heartfelt and precious support.

The South Vietnamese people pledge to do their utmost to further strengthen the friendship and militant solidarity between the Vietnamese and Malian nations.

We share with the fraternal Malian people their jubilation over their achievements during the past ten years and wish them more successes in the defence and building of their country.

SEVEN MORE VICE-MINISTERS TO CAMBODIAN RESISTANCE GOVERNMENT APPOINTED

SEVEN more seasoned resistance fighters and first-rate intellectuals have been appointed Vice-Ministers of the Cambodian resistance Government, according to a communique issued on September 17 by the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the National United Front of Kampuchea and the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia.

The communique said: "The Cambodian people, closely united under the banner of the NUFK presided by its Chairman Samdech Head of State Norodom Sihanouk, and the National Liberation Armed Forces have recorded brilliant victories in their sacred struggles against the US imperialists, the Saigon and Bangkok puppets as well as their under-valets, the Lon Nol-Sirik Matak and Son Ngoc Thanh clique. More than two-thirds of the country with more than three million people have been completely liberated. The rest is constituted by guerilla zones where the Liberation Armed Forces, holding the initiative of combat, are unceasingly launching successful attacks against the puppet troops. Phnom Penh city is practically isolated and encircled by the popular forces. The most urgent tasks of defence and consolidation of the liberated zone and complete liberation of the country should be well carried out till final victory.

For these reasons, the Central Committee of the NUFK in its session from August 20 to 21, decided to broaden, according to the requirements, the responsibilities of the leaders who are fighting on the internal fronts at home. That is why, Mr Khieu Samphon was appointed Vice-Premier concurrently with his function as Minister of National Defence.

The Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the NUFK, after analysing the internal situation of the country and the new tasks, after consultation with the leaders now fighting on the internal front at home and after studying the proposal of Mr Khieu Samphon, member of the Political Bureau, Vice-Premier and Minister of National Defence, have appointed 7 personalities who are fighting on the national territory as Vice-Ministers. This nomination has received the very high approval of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State and President of the NUFK. The new Vice-Ministers are resistance fighters for long years and first-rate intellectuals."

The communique gave the following list:

— Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs: Poc Doeus Komar.

— Vice-Minister of Popular Education and Youth: Mrs Leng Thirith.

— Vice-Minister of Public Health and Social and Religious Affairs: Chou Chet.

— Vice-Minister of Economy and Finance: Koy Toum.

— Vice-Minister of National Defence: Kong Sodip.

— Vice-Minister of Interior and Security: Sor Thouk.

— Vice-Minister of Information and Propaganda: Tiv Ol.

The communique went on:

"Besides, the appointment of the above Vice-Ministers, in the near future, the competence of several Ministries will be transferred inside the country. The Political Bureau, in application of the directives of the Central Committee of the NUFK, will step by step instal there the entire Government."

The communique reiterated full confidence in the Ministers and Vice-Ministers who are carrying out their sacred task under the direct leadership of Vice-Premier Khieu Samphon.

The communique called on the entire Cambodian people and their National Liberation Armed Forces to support the new Vice-Ministers in the fulfilment of their tasks.

THREE FIRST MONTHS OF RAINY SEASON: OVER 4,400 ENEMY PUT OUT OF ACTION

IN the first three months of the current rainy season ending last August, the Lao patriotic forces put out of action more than 4,400 enemy troops, including nearly 800 giving themselves up. They seized or destroyed 2,149 guns of various kinds and a large quantity of war supplies, shot down or wrecked on the ground 49 US aircraft, according to *KPL*.

Among the losses were 6 cannons, over 100 mortars and recoilless guns, 47 radio transmitters, and some 10 arms and ammunition depots blasted.

This followed the big feats recorded by the Lao Patriotic Forces in the 1969-1970 dry season in which more than 13,000 enemy troops were put out of combat.

Following their bitter defeats of strategic significance in the Plain of Jars, Xieng Khoang, Attopeu and other regions, the US imperialists and their lackeys have been bogged down more and more deeply in a position of passive defence. Yet, they have tried their hardest to consolidate their forces, step up forcible conscription and dispatch more Thailand combat troops to Laos to conduct nibbling operations against the liberated areas including the Pak Thu, Pak Cu and Pha Thong areas (Upper Laos).

In Lower Laos, the US and its quislings have launched repeated raids in many places of Savannakhet, Champassak, Saravane and Siphundon provinces.

Since mid-August 1970, they have carried out a nibbling operation codenamed "Thanong 14" involving over 10 battalions of Lao puppet troops and Thai combat forces in Msong Sui area and southwest of the Plain of Jars. Coupled with these illegal activities, the US imperialists and their henchmen have increased air bombings, causing death and destruction among the Lao civilian population. But the aggressors have been duly punished.

Opening the rainy season, on June 3, 1970, the Patriotic Forces in Xieng Khoang in a single engagement with the enemy at Lung Mat, 10 kilometres north of Sam Thong, put out of combat nearly 150 enemy troops.

Six days later, the Lao patriotic forces attacked liberated Saravane provincial capital, knocking down over 500 enemy troops, capturing 150 firearms. They also shattered down 3 US war planes.

The patriotic forces in Saravane province in a single battle at Ban Khok on June 16 put out of action more than 600 enemy troops.

In their attacks on the enemy in their lair at Sam Thong — Long Cheng and the surrounding areas, the patriotic forces wiped out over 1,000 enemy troops.

On July 16, they cut down nearly a whole battalion of Thai combat troops, and inflicted heavy losses on the Lao puppet forces stationed on the hills northeast of Sam Thong.

CLARIFICATIONS ON THE SVNR 10 POINTS GET WIDESPREAD APPROVAL

IMMEDIATELY after Foreign Minister Nguyen Thi Binh gave the 84th session of the Paris Conference on Viet Nam clarifications on a number of points in the 10-point overall solution proposed by the SVNR PRG, they were welcomed by Governments, diplomatic and press circles all over the world as an important tentative break-through. We give below excerpts from some early comments:

Statement by the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia (Sept. 18, 1970):

"... These proposals reflect the legitimate demand of the Vietnamese and the world peoples, including the American, who sincerely have peace and justice at heart. They are most positive... They will create favourable conditions for a peaceful settlement honourable for all parties concerned."

Ivan Bachev, Bulgarian Foreign Minister:

"We regard these proposals as positive, constructive, conform to both sentiment and reason in the settlement of the Viet Nam question. They testify to the good will and serious attitude of the PRG in the search of a fair solution to the Viet Nam issue. They will certainly win the approval and support of large sections of world opinion.

Stefan Jedrychowski, Polish Foreign Minister:

"This is an important political and diplomatic step forward that will help solve the Viet Nam problem in a fair and reasonable way to meet the expectations of progressive mankind including the American people..."

Puja Frigyes, Hungarian First Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs:

"Once again the SVNR PRG has given a proof of its good will for a political settlement to end the war. The clarifications are conform to both sentiment and reason and realistic. If the American side persists in its refusal, it will be the only one to be blamed for the prolongation and expansion of the war in Viet Nam and Indochina."

Statement by the French Peace Movement:

"The statement by Mme Nguyen Thi Binh, head of the Delegation of the SVNR PRG at the Paris Conference on Viet Nam on September 17 is extremely important... President Nixon should seize this opportunity by the forelock. The lives of thousands of people depend on his decision. The voice of reason should triumph finally in Indochina."

Berliner Zeitung — Sept. 19 (GDR):

"Once again the SVNR PRG proves its high sense of responsibility for the destiny of its own people and world peace... The 8-point proposal of the SVNR PRG opens a realistic road to a political settlement and shows a high degree of good will... That is a bridge especially built for the United States to withdraw honorably from Viet Nam."

Krasnaya Zvezda — Sept. 19 (Soviet Union):

"The Sept 17 elaborations on the 10-point overall solution given by the SVNR PRG have provided a possibility to extricate the Paris Conference on Viet Nam from the present impasse.

... If the US government adopts a truly serious attitude towards them, it will have a golden opportunity to get out of the bloody quagmire of war — the longest, costliest and most unpopular war in all US history. If Washington rejects them it will have to bear full responsibility for the consequences."

Rabotnichesko Delo, Sept. 19 (Bulgaria):

"This important initiative of the SVNR PRG is fully approved and supported by the DRVN Government and the peace-loving people in the world. It is a further proof of the good will and aspiration of the genuine representatives of the South Vietnamese people who want to settle the Viet Nam war.

The SVNR PRG proposals spell out the desire of the South Vietnamese people to terminate the war. They may help the Paris Conference on Viet Nam progress towards a settlement of the Viet Nam issue."

Mariam Tuominen, Secretary General of the Finnish Peace Movement:

"The points in this new initiative which are absolutely clear and consistent with sentiment and reason, once again express the iron will of the South Vietnamese people who have been battling for the last quarter-century for independence and freedom..."

Statement by the Central Committee of the Lao Patriotic Front (September 21):

"... The move is a new peace initiative, indicative of the sound position of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam. It highlights the will for peace and independence, meets the earnest aspiration of the Vietnamese people and the demand of universal and US public opinion..."

Statement by Butoflica, Foreign Minister of the Algerian People's Democratic Republic:

"... The clarifications are an expression of the determination of the South Vietnamese people to fight to the end for their fundamental rights. They bring out the serious attitude and the good will of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam at the Paris Conference on Viet Nam...."

The US and Its Agents Blamed for Jordan Bloodbath

ON September 17, just one day after toppling the civilian government, the Jordanian militarists agents, the US hurled troops supported by tanks, armoured vehicles, artillery and aircraft against the Palestinian patriotic forces in Amman and other areas. With the backing of the Jordanian people, these forces resolutely fought back, inflicting substantial losses on the attackers. Units of the Jordanian army, among which a 5,000-strong brigade, crossed over to the guerrillas' side.

The Americans are feverishly preparing for a military intervention in Jordan. Three US planes loaded with arms and munitions reached Amman from Turkey. Under the false pretence of seeing to the security of American nationals in this country, Washington has deployed air and naval forces of its 6th Fleet in the Mediterranean, and even part of those based in the Atlantic. American troops in West Germany and the 82nd Airborne Division in the US have also been put on the alert. At the same time the US declared its readiness to intervene in Jordan at any time if the situation so requires.

Following suit, Britain has placed her forces in Cyprus at the stand-by while rushing reinforcements to the island. Israel, too, has been massing troops to the west of the river Jordan as a pressure on the Palestinian patriotic forces. After receiving 18 new *Phantoms* from the US, it has bombed a number of the guerrillas' bases in Jordan.

The current venture of the Jordanian militarists as well as Israel's aggressive war against Arab countries in 1967 has thrown light on Washington's designs upon the Middle East. In face of this, the Palestinian liberation organization is resolved to fight to a finish for the success of the Palestinian people's revolutionary cause.

The Vietnamese people sternly condemn the bellicose move of the US imperialists and their valets and demand that they end it immediately.

Should the war spread in the Middle East the US would be held responsible for it. Bogged down in Viet Nam, the American war-like leaders will only court disaster in this part of the world.

The courageous fight of the Palestinian patriotic armed forces for independence, liberty and a true peace has enlisted the approval and support of the Arab peoples and progressive mankind. Whatever difficulties and hardships may lie ahead, it will end, we are sure, in victory.

Anti-War Movement Spreads in the US

DESPITE all Nixon's deceptive and demagogic ploys and repressive measures, the American people's protest against the Nixon Administration's adventurist and obdurate policy on Indochina keeps mounting.

In Los Angeles, tens of thousands of Americans of Mexican stock held demonstrations and rallies on Aug. 29 and 30 to demand that the Administration put an immediate end to the aggressive war in Viet Nam, withdraw US troops and use the money saved to improve the lot of national minorities in the United States, including the Americans of Mexican stock, the Black people, the Amer-Indians, etc. They declared it was the duty of Americans of Mexican descent to fight for social reforms and equal rights in the United States, and not to die in the Viet Nam jungle for the defence of the Administration's policy of aggression. They vehemently opposed the Administration's sending of a great number of them to a useless death in Viet Nam. The "power for the people" watchword has now become popular not only among the Americans of Mexican stock and the Black people, but also with the "Movement for a Democratic Military." On Aug. 30, 7,000 Americans in Portland City took to the streets with the slogan "Victory to the Vietnamese," and from Sept. 4 to 7 hundreds of Viet Nam war veterans took part in a four-day anti-war march on a 48 km long road from Morristown to Valley Forge. The movement not only spread to the masses but also attained such reliable props of the Administration as the "Peace Corps" and even GIs on active duty. The "Peace Corps" in Panama came out against the aggression in Viet Nam. According to figures released by the US Defence Department on Sept. 15, the number of war-weary GI deserters which, in 1967, included 27,000 armymen and 6,654 marines, this year rose to 65,693 and 16,109 respectively.

The conflict about the Indochina war within the US ruling circles, especially between the legislative and the executive, has been embittered more and more to the advantage of the legislative. On Aug. 20 and 21, the Senate unanimously endorsed the amendment by Senator Fulbright urging the Administration to curtail various bonuses granted to mercenaries in South Viet Nam and to cut appropriations for troops of satellite countries fighting in Cambodia and Laos. The New York City Council passed a resolution condemning the Viet Nam war and asserting the New Yorkers' right not to participate in that illegal war. It is to be recalled that not long ago the Massachusetts Senate also adopted a similar bill. Clearly enough, the dissensions within the US ruling circles have sprung from the prolongation and expansion of the Indochina war of aggression.

The illegality and immorality of the latter has been strongly flayed. On Aug. 12 the Michigan State Democratic Convention voted for a resolution for the US government's ending at once the war in Viet Nam and withdrawing all US troops. It also suggested that the US pay damages to a "unified Viet Nam" and other Indochinese countries for the war crimes committed in that part of the world. 303 lawyers in Baltimore issued a statement stressing the irrelevancy of any legal basis for US intervention in Viet Nam. More recently, on Sept. 10 at the Federal Court in San Francisco Justice William Sweigert rejected the condemnation by the authorities of four students for their anti-draft activities in connection with the Viet Nam war. This war, W. Sweigert pointed out, is utterly at variance with the US constitution.

From the rostrum of the US Congress, quite a big number of senators from both parties severely criticized Nixon. Senator W. Proxmire pressed for measures by the Senate to pressure the Administration not to send US youths to an illegal war. Senator McGovern said the Administration was obdurately continuing to unnecessarily sacrifice US lives. Senator Edward Kennedy declared that all US commitments with regard to the Viet Nam war should be cancelled. Former Under Secretary for the Air Force Townsend Hoopes in an article condemning the Nixon policy in "Foreign Affairs," bitterly asked why so many intelligent, experienced and humanitarian people in the Administration did not realize the immorality of US intervention in Viet Nam and the deep divergences caused within America by such course of action.

Going on the NBC television, Senator Fulbright, Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, made it plain that the Administration must bear full responsibility for the present stagnation of the Paris Conference. He also stressed that the "Vietnamization" program was in fact a deeper and deeper involvement of the US in the Viet Nam war.

The development of popular anti-war dissent in the US was also marked by the recent establishment of an organization called "National Coalition for a Responsible Congress" comprising various bodies of anti-war students and professors in US universities and colleges.

The movement is likely to become more explosive with the forthcoming traditional Fall Offensive.

Meeting of Americans of Puerto-Rico stock against the aggressive war in South Viet Nam.

SOUTH VIET NAM No 75
October 1st, 1970
Published by the NFL Information Commission
Index 12,520